

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Applicant notes with appreciation the allowance of Claims 17 and 18, and the indication of allowable subject matter within Claims 3–7, 14 and 16.

Claims 3 and 14 have been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3–8 have been amended to remove reference numbers. While new Claims 19–23 have been added, these claims are directed to a communication method corresponding to the subject matter recited by Claims 3–7. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 8, 10–13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shou et al. (USP 5,910,948) in view of Lomp (USP 5,991,332). Without acceding to the rejections, Claims 1, 2 and 10–13 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 15 has been amended to depend from Claim 14. Thus, Claims 3–8 and 14–23 are pending.

With respect to Claim 8, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the final rejection. Claim 8 is directed to a mobile communications terminal. Claim 8 recites, *inter alia*, a control unit dividing a slot into a plurality of search ranges, deleting multipath in said search range and successively allowing said demodulator to demodulate the received signals. Applicant respectfully submits that none of the cited references, taken either singly or in combination, teaches or suggests these features.

Shou is directed to a direct sequence (DS) code divisional multiple access (CDMA) cellular communications system and discloses a cell search method using spread code sequences having a long code peculiar to each cell and a short code corresponding to each communications channel. *See*, e.g., Col. 3, lines 10–40. Applicant submits that Shou fails to teach or suggest the aforementioned features recited by Claim 8. Instead, Shou teaches that multipath signals are processed in parallel using n-correlators and RAKE signal processing. *See*, e.g., Abstract; Col. 4, lines 20–27. Furthermore, Applicant submits that Lomp fails to teach or suggest these features as well.

Lomp discloses a CDMA modem including a receiver section having pilot code acquisition and tracking logic. The receiver section initially acquires the pilot signal by sliding a locally-generated pilot code sequence relative to the received signal and comparing the output signal of the despreader to a match threshold and a dismiss threshold. The pilot signal is acquired when the despreader output signal is greater than the acceptance threshold. The search process is then stopped and tracking begins. However, if the despreader output signal is less than the dismissal threshold, the search process continues with the next code phase. *See, e.g.,* Col. 34, line 63 to Col. 35 lines 51; Col. 30, line 57 to Col. 31, line 4; FIGS. 11 and 15.

Thus, Lomp discloses that his search process stops with the successful match of a valid pilot signal, and fails to teach or suggest a control unit that divides a slot into a plurality of search ranges, deletes multipath in said search range and successively allows a demodulator to demodulate the received signals, as recited by Claim 8. Accordingly, Claim 8 is allowable over the cited references, and Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the final rejection.

Applicant respectfully requests that this application now be passed to issue, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

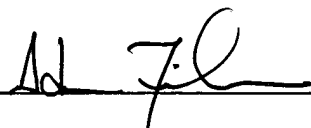
If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees and to credit any overpayments that may be required by this paper under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,
Rothwell, Figg, Ernst & Manbeck, P.C.

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By: _____



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